The Amazing BOX™

Memory Card Converter Box Manual

Model #AD-UBOX

Amazing Designs®
EMBROIDERY SOLUTIONS

Disclaimers

- The converter box will not read manufacturer's alphabet memory cards.
- All designs must fit inside the sewing hoop capabilities of your machine. Reducing the design to fit inside your hoop may affect the sewability.
- Some designs may have stitches that can not be read correctly into the converter box.
- The converter box can not warrant the quality of third party digitizers.
- Any user of the converter box should adhere to applicable license agreements of all third parties of the designs.
- This product is not to be used to violate copyright, trademarks or other intellectual property rights of third parties.
- This product can read from embroidery cards, disks or hard drive but will only save to designs to an official Amazing Box, or Magic Box rewritable memory card.
- Inserting the wrong card type or any foreign object other than an embroidery memory card into the correct slot could bend connector pins and damage the converter box. Connector pins are not covered under the Limited Warranty.
- Each card will access 120,000 to 180,000 stitches. It is possible that some designs have more stitches than a card will allow.
- Not all designs will work on all machines due to machine capabilities.
- Colorizing the design will be necessary through Color Editor to save the design on the rewritable card so that the color displays correctly on your machine's LCD screen.

Limited Warranty

1. All parts other than connector pins are warranted to be free from defects for a period of one year and will be at the manufacturer's option, replaced or repaired at no charge to you, the consumer, for a period of one year from date of original purchase, provided said parts or machine are returned, and transportation prepaid.
2. There is no charge for covered parts or labor when a converter box is returned within 90 days of the original purchase. Proof of purchase date (a copy of the sales receipt) must be included with the machine. The machine will be returned to you, the consumer, prepaid.
3. A flat fee of $50.00 will be charged for service of non-warranted parts when returned after 90 days and before 365 days from the date of original purchase. Proof of purchase date (copy of sales receipt), and a check or money order payable to: GN TECH AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTER.

   GN Tech Support
   2751 Electronic
   Dallas, TX 75220

   The $50.00 must be included with the machine. The converter box will be returned to you, the consumer, freight prepaid.
4. This warranty does not cover bent connector pins.
5. This warranty does not cover postage, transportation to a service center, or service provided by anyone other than GN Tech Service Center.
6. After one year, service may be obtained by contacting any local sewing machine repair center, or return the converter box to GN Tech Service Center for an estimate of repair charges at the address above.

7. THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS THE EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY AND ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, WHETHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, ARE HEREBY DISCLAIMED, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.
8. This warranty is in effect provided the converter box is used only for normal household sewing purposes and not commercial use, and given reasonably good care. The manufacturer is also not to be held responsible for damage, normal wear, accident, abuse, neglect, acts of God, or if the converter box has been repaired (worked on) by unauthorized personnel.
9. Any machine returned:
   - A. Must be packed securely to avoid damage in shipping. We suggest using the original carton and non-static styrofoam packing.
   - B. Shipping charges to be paid by sender.
   - C. To protect you against damage in shipment, the converter box should be insured for full value.
   - D. Proof of purchase (a copy of the sales receipt) must be included.
   - E. Be sure to include sender's name and address (yours) on outside and inside of carton.
   - F. Please specify problem.
10. Warranty only applies to the converter box. Warranty doesn't apply to incidental or consequential damages including, but not limited to, embroidery cards, embroidery machines, garments, or other soft goods.

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11. This warranty is nontransferable and extends only to the original purchaser when new and when purchased from a duly authorized dealer. This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties. The manufacturer is not responsible for any representation, expressed or implied other than those contained herein.
This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

    This warranty disclaims liability for incidental, or consequential damages, which apply during and after the warranty period. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this product, please feel free to contact the manufacturer at the address below:

GN Tech Support
2751 Electronic
Dallas, TX 75220
1-800-553-1691
support@amazingdesigns.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: REGULATIONS

Federal Communications Commission Compliance Notice (for U.S.A. only)

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Important - About the Interface Cable

This equipment has been certified to comply with FCC standards, which are applied to the U.S.A. only. A shielded interface cable should be used according to FCC 15.27 (C)

Caution

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer or local sales distributor could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

Canadian Department of Communication Compliance Statement (for Canada only)

This digital apparatus does not exceed the Class B limits for radio noise emission from digital apparatus as set out in the interference-causing equipment standard entitled "Digital Apparatus", ICES-003 of the Department of Communications

Radio Interference (220-240V only)

This machine complies with EN55022 (CISPER Publication 22)/Class B.

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Introduction

About This Manual

The Amazing Box gives you the unique ability to convert your favorite design from one format to another, and the ability to use designs from disks, CDs and the Internet. This manual is not only filled with information about how to use the program, but it also includes many timesaving tips that will make you more productive, efficient and effective with your embroidery projects.

Items Found in this Section:

1 Why Choose The Amazing Box
2 Terms Used in This Manual
3 Icons Used in This Manual

Why Choose The Amazing Box

The Amazing Box has the most flexible and easy-to-use-features allowing you to work directly with Smart Sizer Gold, Lettering Pro, Size Express, Fast Fills, Click 'N Stitch, and Color Editor. With these six products, you can size, edit, add lettering, pattern fill, and colorize your designs.

Terms Used in This Manual

In The Amazing Box program, there are several different ways to activate the same function or feature: by clicking your mouse on a drop down menu, clicking on an icon, or in some cases, using a hot key.

When suggested, click on an icon with the mouse. Pictures of referenced icons are displayed in the left margin of the manual.

Icons Used in This Book

This icon indicates a story. These stories help to explain and simplify problems that may be confusing.

This icon indicates helpful tips that enable you to better understand how the software works.

This icon provides information that will save you time in your day-to-day use of the software and in some cases the use of your computer.

This icon is placed next to sections of this manual you should not forget. Pay close attention to anything with this icon. It may come in handy later.

This icon explains technical components in the use of the program and computer.

This icon lets you know of potential dangers and will warn you about possible pitfalls while using your computer.

Installation

Items Found in this Section:

1 Accessory Page
2 Computer Requirements
3 Hardware Installation
4 Software Installation
5 Start Program

Accessory Page

Included with The Amazing Box:

1	Amazing Box
1	Rewritable Memory Card - in jewel case
1	Instruction manual
1	Amazing Box Software on CD-ROM Including Color Editor & Adobe Acrobat
1	USB Cable

Options:

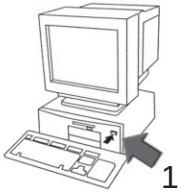
Additional Rewritable Memory Cards
Smart Sizer Gold - editing software
Lettering Pro - text program
Size Express - resizing software
Fast Fills - pattern fill software
Click ‘N Stitch - autodigitizing software

Computer Requirements

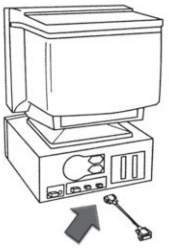
Pentium II Processor
16 MB RAM
5MB hard drive space
Windows 98 or above
CD-ROM Drive
Display 800 X 600 or better
Mouse
USB Port

Hardware Installation

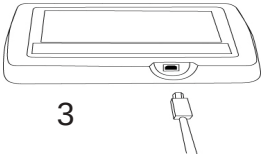
1 Turn OFF computer.



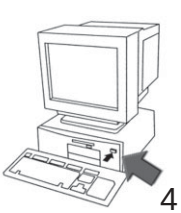
2 Plug flat end of USB cable into USB port. This port may be in the front or back of your machine.



3 Plug square end of your USB cable into the back of your Amazing Box.



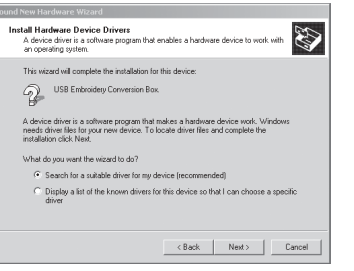
4 Turn ON computer.



5 The first screen you see will say “New Hardware Found.” Simply insert your installation CD into the drive and click “Next.”

Welcome to the Found New Hardware Wizard
This wizard helps you install a device driver for a hardware device.
Found New Hardware
USB Embroidery Conversion Box
Installing ...
To continue, click Next.
< Back
Next >
Cancel

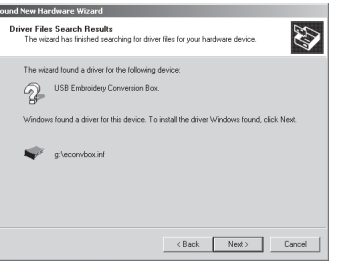
7 With “Search for suitable driver...” selected, click “Next.”


Found New Hardware Wizard
Install Hardware Device Drivers
A device driver is a software program that enables a hardware device to work with an operating system.
This wizard will complete the installation for this device:
USB Embroidery Conversion Box
A device driver is a software program that makes a hardware device work. Windows needs driver files for your new device. To locate driver files and complete the installation click Next.
What do you want the wizard to do?
Search for a suitable driver for my device (recommended)
Display a list of the known drivers for this device so that I can choose a specific driver
< Back
Next >
Cancel

8 Select only “CD-ROM drives” and then click “Next.”

Found New Hardware Wizard
Locate Driver Files
Where do you want Windows to search for driver files?
Search for driver files for the following hardware device:
USB Embroidery Conversion Box
The wizard searches for suitable drivers in its driver database on your computer and in any of the following optional search locations that you specify.
To start the search, click Next. If you are searching on a floppy disk or CD-ROM drive, insert the floppy disk or CD before clicking Next.
Optional search locations:
Floppy disk drives
CD-ROM drives
Specify a location
Microsoft Windows Update
< Back
Next >
Cancel

9 After Windows has found the driver, click “Next” to start the installation process.


Found New Hardware Wizard
Driver Files Search Results
The wizard has finished searching for driver files for your hardware device.
The wizard found a driver for the following device:
USB Embroidery Conversion Box
Windows found a driver for this device. To install the driver Windows found, click Next.
g:\econvbox.inf
< Back
Next >
Cancel

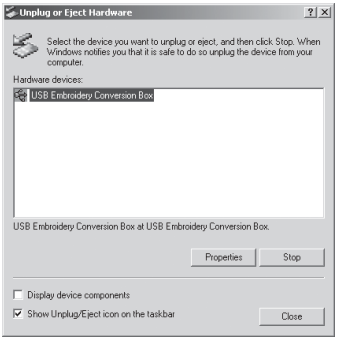
10 Finally, select “Finish.” Your driver installation is complete, and you are ready to install your Amazing Box software.

Found New Hardware Wizard
Completing the Found New Hardware Wizard
USB Embroidery Conversion Box
Windows has finished installing the software for this device.
To close this wizard, click Finish.
< Back
Finish
Cancel

Troubleshooting

If you use **Windows 2000, Millenium Edition (ME), or XP**, you will see an icon (Figure 1) appear at the bottom right corner of your screen (near the clock). When unplugging your Amazing Box, you must first double-click this icon, select the “USB Conversion Box,” and then click “Stop.” It is now safe to unplug your Amazing Box.

Figure 1


Unplug or Eject Hardware
Select the device you want to unplug or eject, and then click Stop. When Windows notifies you that it is safe to do so unplug the device from your computer.
Hardware devices:
USB Embroidery Conversion Box
USB Embroidery Conversion Box at USB Embroidery Conversion Box.
Properties
Stop
Display device components
Show Unplug/Eject icon on the taskbar
Close

The next time you plug your Amazing Box in, Windows will automatically recognize the conversion box driver.

NOTE: If you fail to stop your Amazing Box before unplugging it, you will have to reinstall the driver from your installation CD.

Hardware Installation
The software you are installing for this hardware:
USB Embroidery Conversion Box
has not passed Windows Logo testing to verify its compatibility with Windows XP. (Tell me why this testing is important.)
Continuing your installation of this software may impair or destabilize the correct operation of your system either immediately or in the future. Microsoft strongly recommends that you stop this installation now and contact the hardware vendor for software that has passed Windows Logo testing.
Continue Anyway
STOP Installation

Microsoft's Logo compatibility testing is put in place to ensure that users do not incur problems with equipment manufacturers' products. While The Amazing Box is in the process of gaining "formal" Microsoft approval, it has been tested for use under the Windows XP operating system and is Windows XP compatible. The Amazing Box driver should not yield any problems, therefore, select “Continue Anyway” when this warning appears.

More information about Microsoft Logo testing can be found at: http://www.microsoft.com/WINLOGO/hardware/digitalsignature.asp

No Comport Error Message

If you get a message on your screen saying, “No comport...” this usually means the USB driver is not installed correctly. Follow the following steps to reinstall the driver.

1. Unplug the USB cable from the computer while it is on.
2. Turn off your computer.
3. Plug the USB cable back into the computer.
4. Turn on the computer.
5. A Mircrosoft message stating, “New hardware found,” appears.
6. Insert the Amazing Box CD into the CD-ROM drive and cancel installation if it autoruns.
7. Now follow the on-screen prompts and directions in the Installation chapter on Hardware Installation to install the USB driver.

Software Installation

1. From the Windows desktop **close all open programs**.
2. Place The Amazing Box CD in the CD-ROM drive.
3. From the Windows desktop, click on the **Start** button.
4. Click on the **Run** button.
5. At the Run prompt you will need to type the letter of your CD-ROM Drive followed by Setup. (Ex: D:\SETUP or E:\SETUP) You may also press the **Browse** button and click on the CD-ROM drive and the setup.exe file. Once the setup.exe file is highlighted press **Open**. This will copy the command to the command prompt. Next press the **Return** or **Enter** key.

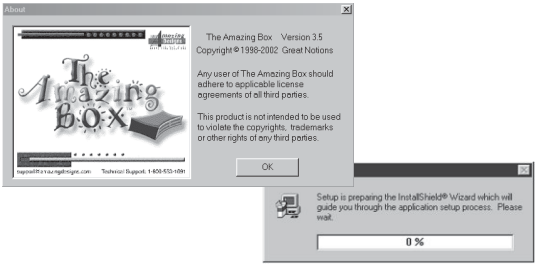

About
The Amazing Box Version 3.5
Copyright © 1998-2002 Great Notions
Any user of The Amazing Box should adhere to applicable license agreements of all third parties.
This product is not intended to be used to violate the copyrights, trademarks or other rights of any third parties.
OK
Setup is preparing the InstallShield® Wizard which will guide you through the application setup process. Please wait.
0 %

Figure Inst-1

6. Click **Next**.

Lettering Pro
Welcome to the ConverterBox installation program
It is strongly recommended that you exit all Windows programs before running this Setup program.
Click Cancel to quit Setup and then close any programs you have running. Click Next to continue with the Setup program.
WARNING: This program is protected by copyright law and international treaties.
Unauthorized reproduction or distribution of this program, or any portion of it, may result in severe civil and criminal penalties, and will be prosecuted to the maximum extent possible under law.
Next >
Cancel

Figure Inst-2

7. Click **Next**.

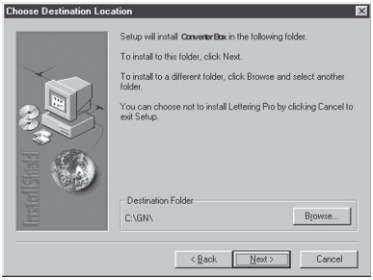

Choose Destination Location
Setup will install ConverterBox in the following folder.
To install to this folder, click Next.
To install to a different folder, click Browse and select another folder.
You can choose not to install Lettering Pro by clicking Cancel to exit Setup.
Destination Folder
C:\GN\
Browse...
< Back
Next >
Cancel

Figure Inst-3

8. Click **Next**.

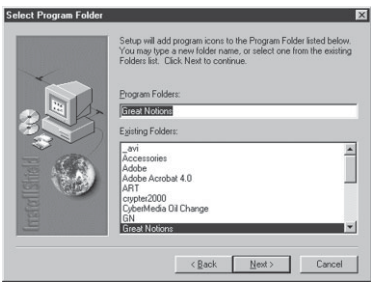


Figure Inst-4

9. Click **Finish**.

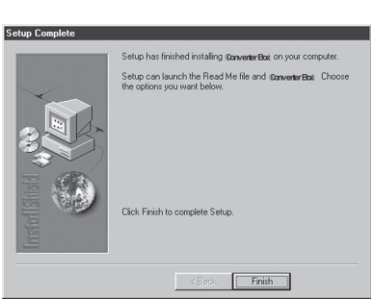

Setup Complete
Setup has finished installing ConverterBox on your computer.
Setup can launch the Read Me file and ConverterBox. Choose the options you want below.
Click Finish to complete Setup.
< Back
Finish

Figure Inst-5

Start Program

Follow the steps below in order to run The Amazing Box.

To start the program:

1. Go to **Start**.
2. Click on **Programs**.
3. Click on **Great Notions**.
4. Click on **Amazing Box**.

Amazing Box appears on your screen as shown in Figure Inst-6. Your Amazing Box and software is properly installed and is ready to use.

If you receive any errors when loading The Amazing Box's software,
call 1-800-553-1691 Monday through Friday 8 am to 9 pm CST.
or email support@amazingdesigns.com.

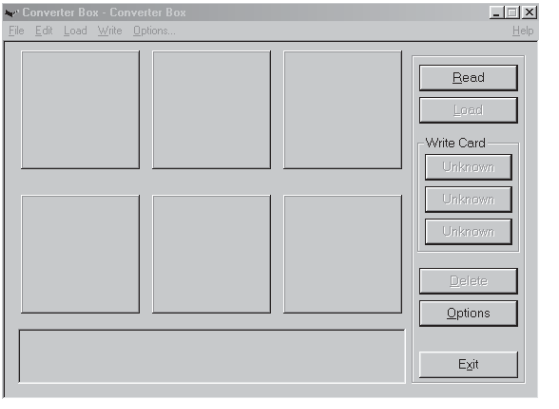


Figure Inst-6

File Formats

File Formats

File Formats are designs on your hard drive, floppy or CD-ROM that The Amazing Box will read. There are many different file formats the Amazing Box will open. You will find them listed below.

GNC (*.gnc)

A “GNC” file is a scalable format used with Amazing Designs software. This format enables you to enlarge or reduce the size of the design using Smart Sizer Gold. The computer will automatically regenerate the design adding or subtracting stitches.

HUS (*.hus)

A “HUS” file is an expanded file format that works with Viking DOS Customizer and Viking Customizer 95 software.

DST (*.dst)

A “DST” file is an expanded file format that works with the Tajima machine.

CSD (*.csd)

A “CSD” file is an expanded file format that works with DOS HuskyGram, Toyota POEM and Singer Embroidery Unlimited.

EXP (*.exp)

A “EXP” file is an expanded file format that works with the Converter Box.

JEF (*.jef)

A “JEF” file is an expanded file format that works with the Janome 10000 machine.

PCS (*.pcs)

A “PCS” file is an expanded file format that works with Pfaff PC-Designer V2.0 (PC), and Pfaff PC-Designer V2.1 (PC) software.

PES (*.pes)

A “PES” file is an expanded file format that works with Babylock Palette, Bernina Wizard and Brother PE-Design software.

SEW (*.sew)

A “SEW” file is an expanded file format that works with Janome Scan-n-Sew PC, Elna Envision Scan PC, Dream Vision and Customizer 2000.

XXX (*.xxx)

A “XXX” file is an expanded file format that works with Singer PSW.

An expanded format is any format that will not regenerate new stitches when resized. This means that if you reduce an expanded design, the stitch count will not change. What happens is that the stitches will get closer together and you may end up with thread or needle breakage and/or damage to your garment. One way to avoid this problem is to use stitch processing software like Size Express from Amazing Designs.

Quick Start

Items Found in this Section:

General Operation
A Read
B Load
C Delete
D Write
Using Compatible Software

General Operation

1. Make sure The Amazing Box has power. To do this, simply verify the green light on the front of The Amazing Box is on.

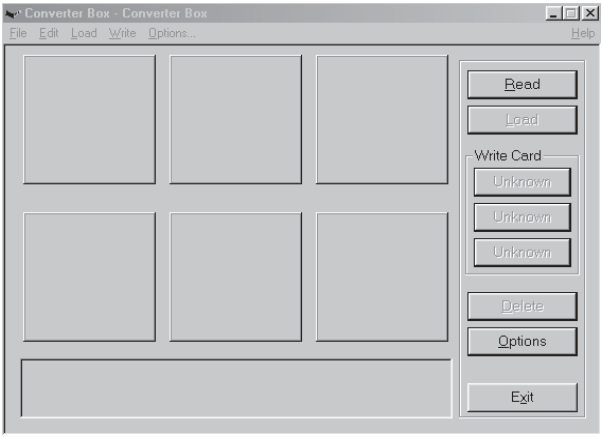
2. Open the Amazing Box program by double-clicking on the icon. Make sure you have only opened the program one time. When you double click the icon, it takes a few seconds for the program to open.

You must only have the program opened one time in order to set up communication between your computer and the Amazing Box.

To ensure the program hasn't been opened twice, look at the bottom of your monitor screen between the "Start" button on the left and the clock on the right. If you see a square with "Convert" and a picture of the box more than once, you need to exit one of the programs before you may continue.

3. Click **OK** to enter the program. The design transfer screen offers you a **Read**, **Load**, and three **Write Card** buttons. The main screen also has a **Delete**, **Options** and **Exit** button. The **Load, Write Card** and **Delete** buttons will be inactive until a design has been read into the software or a card inserted into the slot.

Figure QS-1



Read

The **Read** function lets you select a design from a file. You can read designs from a floppy disk, CD, or your hard drive. The Amazing Box software is conversion software. This means that you can "read" CSD, DST, PES, HUS, JEF, SEW, XXX and PCS file extensions into this software. The **Read** function also reads zipped files without you having to unzip them first.

Tip The GNC format is found on the Amazing Designs disk collections.

Tip Use a GNC formated design whenever possible as it automatically resizes the design to fit the sewing field you are writing to.

Remember, the box is a design file transfer system for finished file sewing formats. You cannot read .bmp, .jpg, or any kind of clip art into this program. There is no digitizing software included.

Click the **Read** button, and the standard "Open" window appears (Figure QS-2). Click the down arrow to the right of the "Look in" box and follow the path to the folder or drive where your designs are stored. Once you have the appropriate folder in the "Look in" box and the file information displayed below it, you can select the design you want, or click on the **Browse** button to see pictures of the designs. Double click on the picture and the design will load into a square on the main screen. You can keep choosing files until all 6 squares are full.

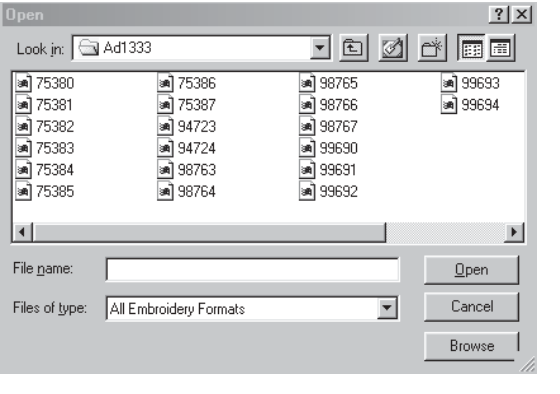


Figure QS-2

Load

The **Load** function is what enables you to take designs from memory cards into the software and write them back to a card for your embroidery machine.

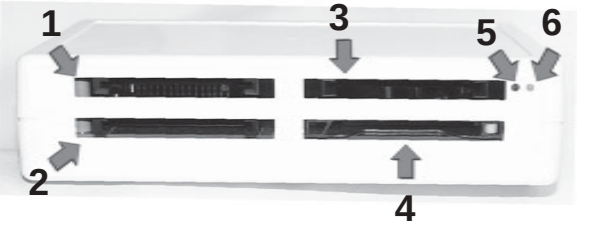
1. Simply insert the preprogrammed memory card into the appropriate slot (See Figure QS-3 on the next page) in the box and the **Load** button will highlight.

2. Click the **Load** button and type the number of the desired design and click **OK** to load that design. You can also view all the designs on the memory card by clicking **Browse**. This brings up a picture of each design on the memory card. Select the design you want and click **Load**. You are able to load up to 6 designs at a time.

3. When you are finished selecting designs from the "Browse" page, click **OK** and the design will load onto the main screen.

Once you have loaded your designs from the preprogrammed card, you need to remove it from the slot.

Figure QS-3



1 Upper Left Card Slot (Slot 1)

The card slot for Babylock, Bernina-Deco, Brother, Simplicity, Viking #1+, Rose, and 605 Cards.

2 Lower Left Card Slot (Slot 2)

The card slot for Pfaff, Janome 10000 and Bernina-Artista Cards.

3 Upper Right Card Slot (Slot 3)

The card slot for Singer Cards.

4 Lower Right Card Slot (Slot 4)

The card slot for Elna, Janome, New Home, and Kenmore Cards.

5 Red Light

The red light informs you The Amazing Box is either reading or writing a card.

6 Green Light

The green light informs you The Amazing Box is ON.

Delete

The **Delete** button is used to remove a design from any of the 6 squares on the screen. Click the design you want to delete then click the **Delete** button and the design disappears.

Write

Once you have up to 6 designs on your screen then you are ready to insert your rewritable memory card into the appropriate slot on the Amazing Box and write the designs to the rewritable card for sewing.

See Figure QS-3 for which slots cards are assigned to.

1. Click one of the 3 buttons below “Write Card.” (Detailed information regarding the programming of these buttons is in the “Main Screen” section of the manual).

2. The message “You are about to overwrite the current card. Are you sure?” will appear. Click **Yes**.

3. The design(s) will write to the card. When finished writing, the message “Success! Memory card is now ready for use” appears. Click **OK**.

Only one card in the box at a time!

Do not remove your card while the red light is on.

You will see a status bar with numbers counting up "Writing block….". There is no specific number at which the transfer will stop. You must wait until the status bar is no longer on the screen to remove your card. The message "Success - Memory card is ready for use" will appear on your screen when it is safe to remove your card from The Amazing Box.

Now you are ready to take the card to your machine and sew!!

Using Compatible Software

The Amazing Box allows you to edit your designs using other Amazing Designs software such as Lettering Pro, Size Express, Color Editor, etc. Start the desired program, then double click the desired design or the **Edit/Transfer** drop-down menu, and the design will transfer into that program.

Ex. To send a design from the Main Screen into Color Editor:

1. **Open** Color Editor and maximize.
2. Double click on the desired design on the Main Screen, and this design will automatically be transferred into Color Editor (Figure QS-4).
3. Once in Color Editor, recolor the design by clicking on the color block below the design.
4. To send design back to The Amazing Box, click **File/Save**.

Remember

This also works with any other Amazing Designs software.

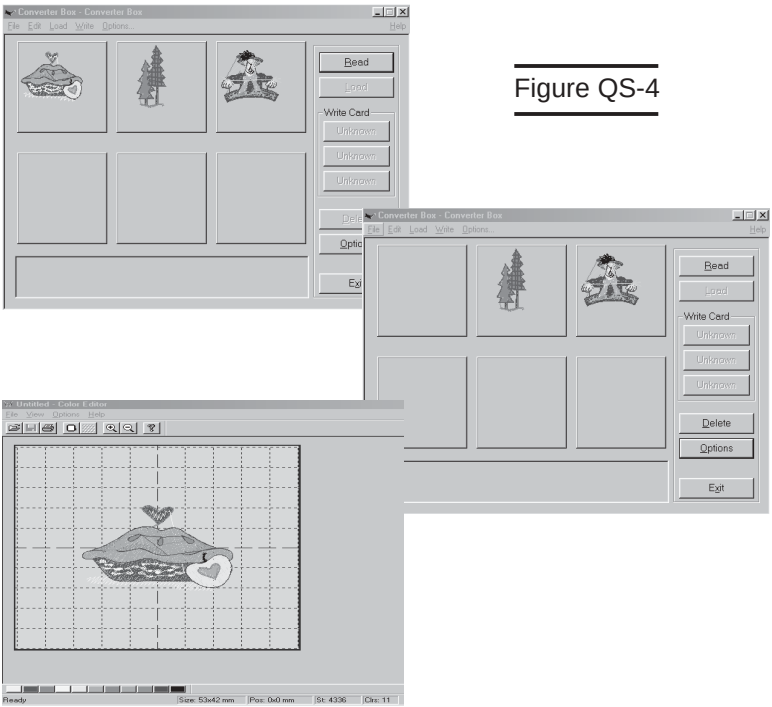


Figure QS-4

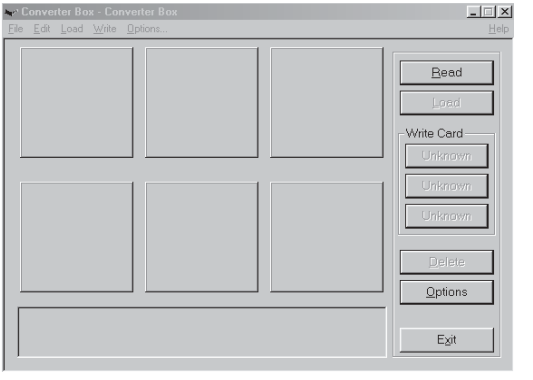
Main Screen

In this section of the manual, all the features on the Main Screen are explained.

Items Found in this Section:

Design Screen
Dialog Box
Read
Load
Write
Delete
Options
Exit

Figure MS-1



Amazing Box Main Screen

Main Screen

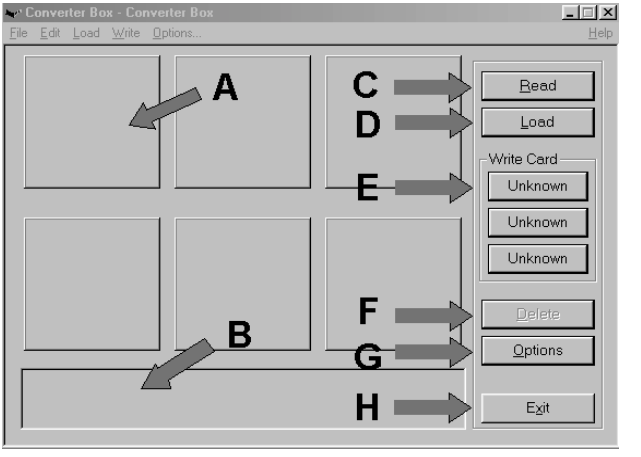


Figure MS-2

A Design Screen
B Dialog Box
C Read
D Load
E Write
F Delete
G Options
H Exit

A Design Screen

When using The Amazing Box, you are able to place up to six designs onto a card at one time (Depending on the size, stitch count and/or color changes in the design).

The six boxes, as shown in Figure MS-3 will display the sequence of the designs selected before writing to a card.

If you own Smart Sizer Gold, Lettering Pro, Size Express, Fast Fills and/or Color Editor, you can load the desired program and then double click on any of the boxes and the design will open directly in that software.

Color Editor is included with the Amazing Box. See the chapter titled "Color Editor" in this manual.

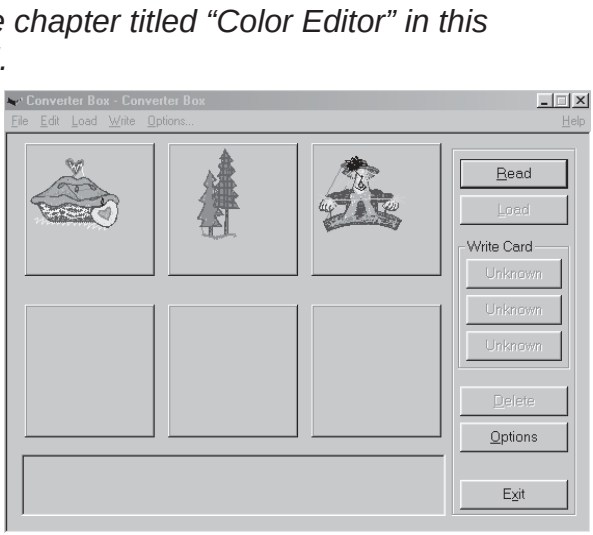


Figure MS-3

B Dialog Box

When moving your mouse over the different features in the program, information about that feature will be displayed in the Dialog Box.

C Read

Click the **Read** button or the **File/Open** drop-down menu to open the “Open” window as shown below in Figure MS-4. Using the down arrow to the right of the “Look in” box, find the directory or drive in which your designs are stored. Once your design files are displayed, select the design you want and click **Open**.

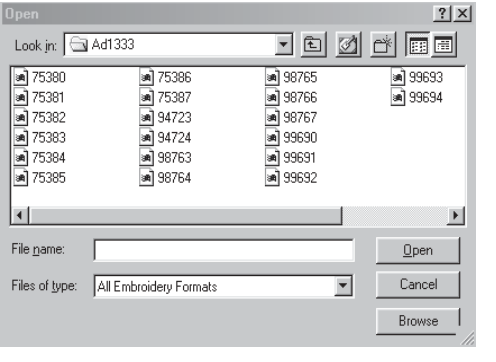


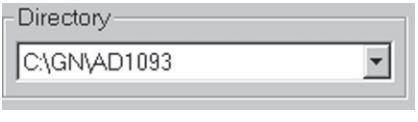
Figure MS-4

Another feature in the “Open” window is “Browse.” Click on **Browse** and the “Browse” window will open displaying all the designs in that folder as shown below in Figure MS-5.

Figure MS-5

With the “Browse” function open, there are several things to note.

In the “Sort By” function, you can sort your designs by name or extension.



Click on the menu arrow under “Directory,” for the listing of sub-directories in your computer. Select the directory and the designs will automatically load onto the window as shown in Figure MS-5.

This icon will take you to your first design.

This icon will take you to the previous page of designs.

This icon will take you back one design.

This icon will take you forward one design.

This icon will take you to the next page of designs.

This icon will take you to your last design.

After selecting a design, click on **OK** to load the design to screen.

Click the **Cancel** button to close the window.

The Amazing Box can read multiple file formats from floppy, CD-ROM or your hard drive.

GNC: Great Notions condensed (*.gnc)
CSD: Toyota Poem/Singer EU/Dos HuskyGram (*.csd)
DST: Tajima (*.dst)
EXP: DOS expanded (*.exp)
HUS: Viking DOS Customizer/ Customizer 95 (*.hus) Split at 12 colors
JEF: Janome 10000 (*.jef)

PCS: Pfaff PC-Designer V2.0 & V2.1 PC (*.pcs) Split at 16 colors
PEC: Babylock Palette/Bernina Wizard/Brother PE-Design (*.pec)
PES: Babylock/Bernina Deco/Brother/ Simplicity (*.pes, *.pec)
SEW: Elna/Janome (*.sew)
XXX: Singer (*.xxx)

GNC Files

GNC formated designs will automatically resize if necessary to fit the sewing field you are writing to.

The GNC format is only found on Amazing Designs disk collections.

Zip Files

The Amazing Box will also read zip files.

Click the **Read** button and go to the directory that contains your zipped designs as shown in Figure MS-6.

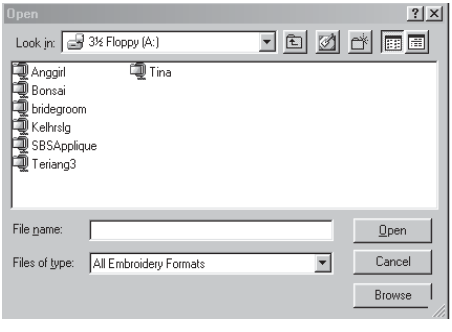
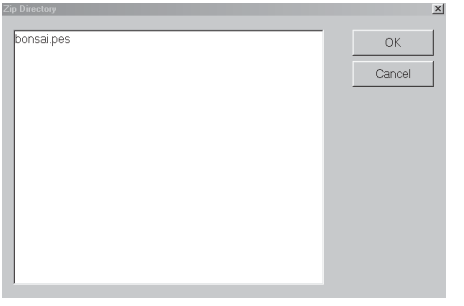


Figure MS-6

Select the zipped file that you want to take a design from and click **Open**. The “Zip Directory” opens, displaying the designs within that zip file as shown in Figure MS-6a.

Figure MS-6a



Select the desired file and click **Open** to load it, or click **Cancel** to close the window and return to the “Main Screen.”

D Load

The **Load** function is what enables you to take designs from memory cards into the software and write them back to a card for your embroidery machine. You are able to load up to 6 designs at a time into the software.

Not all pre-programmed memory cards are readable. Some manufacturers have disabled this function for their cards.

1 Upper Left Card Slot (Slot 1)
The card slot for Babylock, Bernina-Deco, Brother, Simplicity, Viking #1+, Rose, and 605 Cards.

2 Lower Left Card Slot (Slot 2)
The card slot for Pfaff, Janome 10000, and Bernina-Artista Cards.

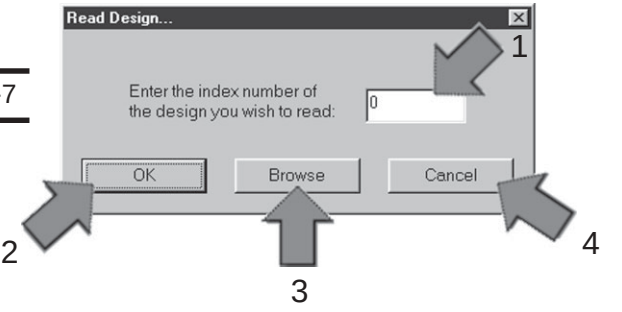
3 Upper Right Card Slot (Slot 3)
The card slot for Singer Cards.

4 Lower Right Card Slot (Slot 4)
The card slot for Elna, Janome, New Home, and Kenmore Cards.

Remember to remove the pre-programmed memory card from the Amazing Box and replace with the rewritable card before clicking "Write."

Click the **Load** button or the **File/Load** drop-down menu and the "Read Design" dialog box will appear as shown on the next page in Figure MS-7.

Figure MS-7



1 Type in the design number of the single design you wish to load if you know the numbered position of the design.

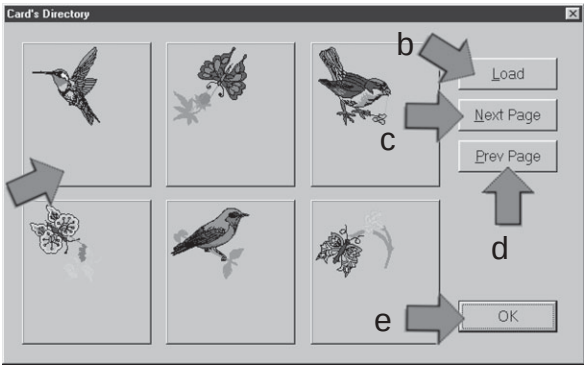
2 After typing in the design number, click **OK** and the desired design will load.

3 If you do not know the number of the design, click **Browse** and all the designs on the card will be displayed. The “Browse” function is further explained on the next page.

4 **Cancel** will close the “Load” functions.

Clicking the **Browse** button in the “Read Design” dialog box will display the “Card’s Directory” showing you pictures of all the designs on the card as shown in Figure MS-7a.

Figure MS-7a



a Up to six designs can be shown at one time depending on the number of designs on the card as shown in Figure MS-7a.

b Select the desired design then click **Load** to send the design to the “Main Screen.” You can select up to 6 designs depending on the space available on the “Main Screen.” The “Card’s Directory” will not close until you click **OK**.

c Clicking the **Next Page** button will show the next six designs.

d Clicking the **Prev Page** button will show the previous six designs.

e Clicking **OK** will take you back to the “Main Screen.”

E Write

The Amazing Box has the capability of loading and writing memory card designs. You must have the appropriate writable card to be able to write designs for your machine. Listed below are the writable card formats and their appropriate slots in The Amazing Box.

1 Upper Left Card Slot (Slot 1)
The card slot for Babylock, Bernina-Deco, Brother, Simplicity, Viking #1+, Rose, and 605 Cards.

2 Lower Left Card Slot (Slot 2)
The card slot for Pfaff, Janome 10000, and Bernina-Artista Cards.

3 Upper Right Card Slot (Slot 3)
The card slot for Singer Cards.

4 Lower Right Card Slot (Slot 4)
The card slot for Elna, Janome, New Home, and Kenmore Cards.

Pfaff, Artista and Janome 10000 all use the same slot in The Amazing Box, but the Janome 10000 rewritable card is different from the Pfaff and Artista card. This means you can not write a Pfaff or Artista file to a Janome 10000 card and vice versa.

Once you have up to 6 designs in the software, you are ready to insert your rewritable memory card into the appropriate slot on The Amazing Box and write these designs to the rewritable card for sewing.

To program the “Write Card” buttons for your machine, first insert a writable card into the appropriate slot in the box. Now click any of the buttons marked “Unknown.” A new dialog box appears as shown in Figure MS-8. Click the down arrow to select your machine from the choices given.

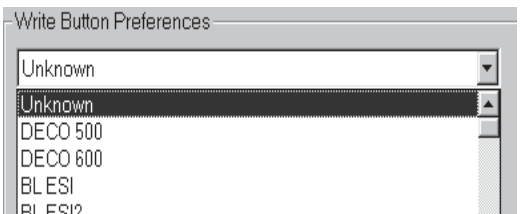


Figure MS-8

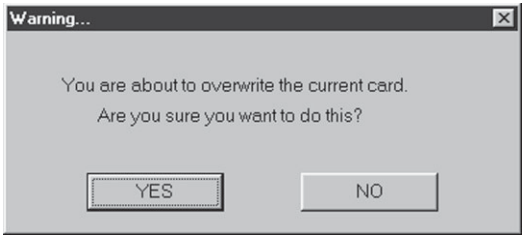
Only the machine choices for the card inserted in the slot will be offered (ex. the upper left side slot is for format PES/HUS so only BabyLock/ Brother/Deco/Simplicity/Viking machines will be offered). Select the appropriate machine model.

If you do not see your machine model you can select a different machine by the same manufacturer with the same single sewing field parameters. You can select from the list provided at the end of this section.

You can set each "Write" button to reflect your personal machine. If you own more than one model you can set the buttons accordingly. Once you set the "Write" button to a certain machine it will remain set until you change it.

Now click on the newly programmed "Write Card" button to save the designs to the card. You will be given a warning that the card will be overwritten as shown in Figure MS-8a. You will be erasing all of the previously written designs and replacing them with the new ones. Click **Yes** and the transfer will start. Click **No** to cancel this operation. You will now see a red light in the center of the box. This means that The Amazing Box is transferring the designs to the card.

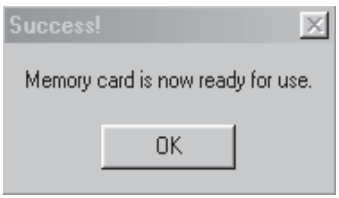
Figure MS-8a



Do not remove your card while the red light is on!

When the Amazing Box is done writing the designs to the card, it will display a “Success” window (Figure MS-8b). You are now ready to take the card to your machine and sew!

Figure MS-8b



This software will not split designs for multi-position hoops. You can only save designs to your writable card in the size that you machine will sew in a single sewing field.

One card in the box at a time. If you are loading designs from a programmed memory card, remove it before you insert your writable card and click on the “Write” button.

Some machines require designs to split into multiple files depending on the number of colors and stitch count. If your design doesn't appear to have sewn out completely, then you may need to select the next file on the card to complete your design. Ex. Pfaff PCS format splits at 16 colors or 14,000 stitches.

F Delete

The **Delete** button gives you the ability to remove a design before writing to the card. Select the design you want to delete by clicking on it, then click the **Delete** button or the **Edit**/**Delete** drop-down menu and the design is removed.

G Options

Click the **Options** button to pre-set the "Unknown" write buttons to reflect your machine type (Figure MS-9).

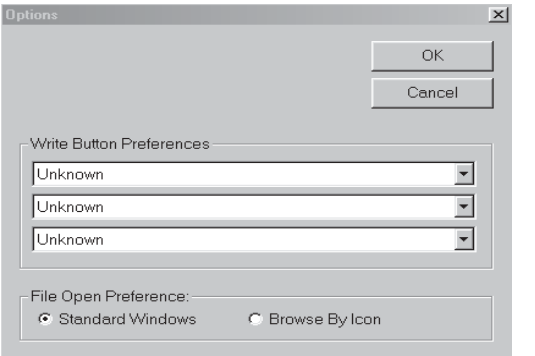


Figure MS-9

Click any of the down arrows in the "Write Button Preferences" field, and a database of available machines is displayed (Figure MS-9a).

Scroll through the list until you find your machine and select it. Click **OK** to accept it or **Cancel** to close the window. The machine information will now replace the word “Unknown” on the “Write” buttons on the “Main Screen.” You can set all 3 buttons to your machine types or leave the other 2 as “Unknown.”

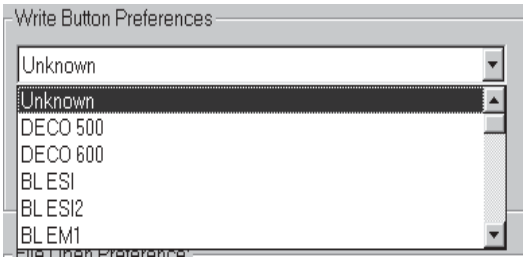


Figure MS-9a

If you do not see your machine model you can select a different machine by the same manufacturer with the same single sewing field parameters. You can select from the list provided at the end of this section.

You can set each “Write” button to reflect your personal machine. If you own more than one model you can set the buttons accordingly. Once you set the “Write” button to a certain machine it will remain set until you change it.

H Exit

Clicking the **Exit** button will close the Amazing Box software.

Memory card driven machines
Maximum Single Sewing Field
By Machine

Machine	Hoop Size	File
BabyLock ESI/ESI2	100 x 100	PES
BabyLock EM1/EM2/eac/BL60E	100 x 100	PES
Bernina Deco 500/600	100 x 100	PES
Simplicity SE1/SE2/SE3	100 x 100	PES
Brother PE150/100/200/300S/7500	100 x 100	PES
White W3300	100 x 100	PES
BabyLock ESE/ESE2/Ellure	130 x 180	PES
Brother 8200/8500/6500	130 x 180	PES
BabyLock Ellageo 1/2/3	160 x 260	PES
Brother ULT/2002D	160 x 260	PES
Bernina Artista 180/170	152 x 198	ART
Bernina Artista 200E		
Elna 9006	70 x 80	SEW
Janome NH 8000	70 x 80	SEW
Elna CE20/8007/8006	122 x 88	SEW
Janome NH 9000/5700/5000	122 x 88	SEW
Kenmore 1900/19001	122 x 88	SEW

Memory card driven machines
Maximum Single Sewing Field
By Machine (cont.)

Machine	Hoop Size	File
Janome 10000	140 x 200	JEF
Pfaff 7570/7560	115 x 120	PCS
Pfaff 2140	140 x 225	VIP
Viking Rose/1+/Iris	100 x 100	HUS
Singer XL100	112 x 80	PSW
Singer XL150	130 x 240	PSW
Singer XL1000	130 x 240	PSW

****

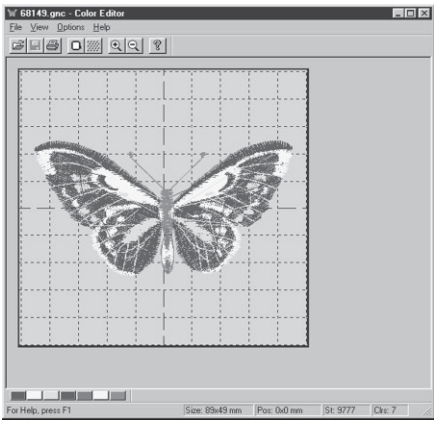
Single sewing fields listed for current model machines even though the Amazing Box may not be capable of saving to some of the larger sewing fields at this time.

****

Color Editor

In this section, all the features of the Color Editor software are explained.

Figure CE-1



Color Editor is a separate program provided with The Amazing Box for the purpose of changing a design's color information.

Drop-Down Menus

Immediately below the title bar is the drop-down menu. This contains all the commands for Color Editor.

Figure CE-2
Drop-Downs

You will find four Drop-Down Menus:

File
View
Options
Help

File Menu

Open (Ctrl+O)

Click **File**, then **Open** to select a design.

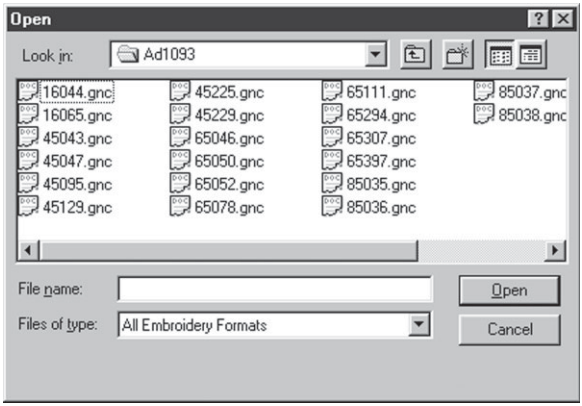


Figure CE-3
Open

This displays the “Open” window along with your default folder or directory setting as shown above in Figure CE-3.

FigureCE-3a

Click on the down arrow to the right of the “Look in” box to show the list of sub-directories on your computer as shown in Figure CE-3a. Select the folder that contains your designs.

When you click on a file, the file name will appear in the field box to the right of “File name” as shown in Figure CE-3b.

Figure CE-3b

To the right of “Files of type” you can choose what type of embroidery format you wish to open.

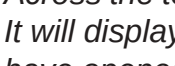
Figure CE-3c

Multiple file formats may be selected when opening a file:

GNC: GN Scalable (*.gnc)
HUS: Viking DOS Customizer/ Customizer 95 (*.hus) Split at 12 colors
CSD: Toyota Poem/Singer EU/Dos HuskyGram (*.csd)
PES: Baby Lock/Bernina Deco/Brother/ Simplicity (*.pes, *.pec)
SEW: Janome Scan-n-Sew PC/Elna Envision Scan PC (*.sew)
PEC: Baby Lock Palette/Bernina Wizard/ Brother PE-Design (*.pec)
PCS: Pfaff PC-Designer V2.0 & V2.1 PC (*.pcs) Split at 16 colors
XXX: Singer PSW (*.xxx)
EXP: DOS expanded (*.exp)
DST: Tajima (*.dst)

After selecting a design, it appears in the “File name” box. Click on the **Open** button to load the design.

Across the top of the main screen is the title bar. It will display the file name of the design you have opened. If you are working in a new file, and it has not yet been saved, it will display “Untitled” as the file name.



Click the **Cancel** button, to cancel the “Open” command.

Save (Ctrl+S)

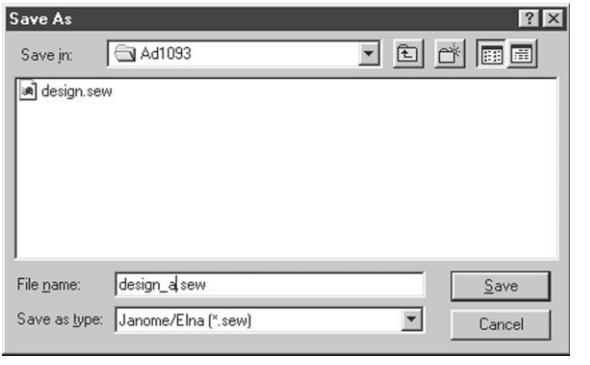
Click **File**, then **Save** to save changes to an existing file. The “Save” command saves your document under the same name, replacing the previous version. When you finish using Color Editor, save your work before closing it.

You should periodically save your work so that you don’t lose your work in the event of a power interruption or hardware failure.

Save As

Click **File**, then **Save As** to name your design and save it to the desired folder.

Figure CE-4
Save As



The “Save As” window in Figure CE-4, functions the same way as the “Open” window. Click on the down arrow to the right of the “Save in” box to select the desired folder.

Type the name of the design in “File name” as shown in figure CE-4a.

Figure CE-4a

To the right of “Save as type” you can choose what type of embroidery format you wish save to.

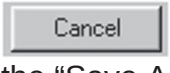
Figure CE-4b

The "Save As" feature will only allow you to save the file within the same format it was opened, with the exception of GNC.

If a design is opened in GNC, it can be saved in HUS, CSD, PES, SEW, JEF, PCS, XXX, EXP and DST.

If the design was sent from The Amazing Box, it can only be saved back to The Amazing Box.

After typing the name of the design in "File name" shown in Figure CE-4a, click the **Save** button and the design will be saved.



Click the **Cancel** button, to cancel the "Save As" command.

Print (Ctrl+P)

Click **File**, then **Print** to print a copy of your design.

Not only will the design print out, but it will also show the file name, the stitching size, the number of stitches and the number of colors.

Print Preview

Click **File**, then **Print Preview** to display on the screen how the printed page will appear (Figure CE-5).

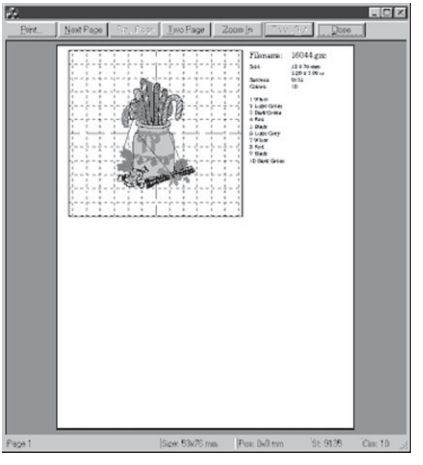
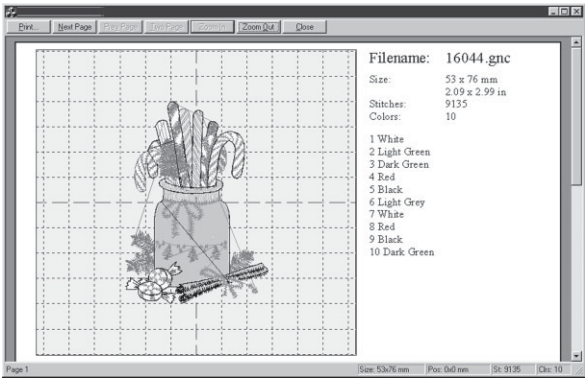


Figure CE-5

When viewing the “Print Preview” screen, there are some items to note (Figure CE-5a).

Figure CE-5a



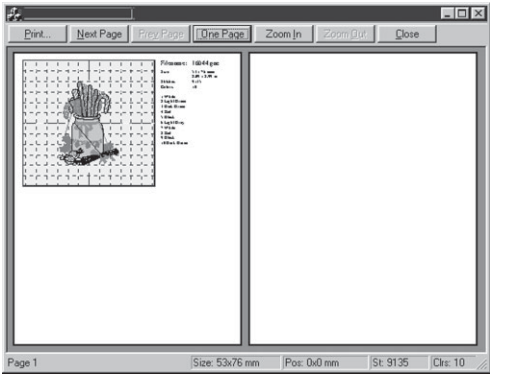
On the right side of the screen (Figure CE-5a), you will notice the file name, the size of design in millimeters and inches, stitch count, number of colors and the order the colors are to be sewn out.

Click the **Print** button to print the instruction sheet to your printer.

Click the **Next Page** button to display the instructions from the second page. The **Prev Page** button will take you back to the previous page (if applicable).

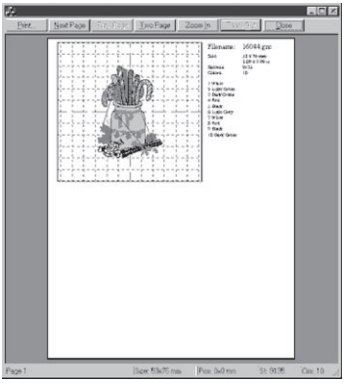
Click the **Two Page** button to show a preview of both pages as shown in Figure CE-5b.

Figure CE-5b



Click the **One Page** button to bring the "Print Preview" screen back to one page as shown in Figure CE-5c.

Figure CE-5c



Click the **Zoom In** button to zoom in as shown in Figure CE-5a.

Click the **Zoom Out** button to zoom out as shown in Figure CE-5c.

Click the **Close** button to close the "Print Preview" screen.

Print Setup

Click **File**, then **Print Setup** to bring up the print setup dialog box as shown in Figure CE-6.

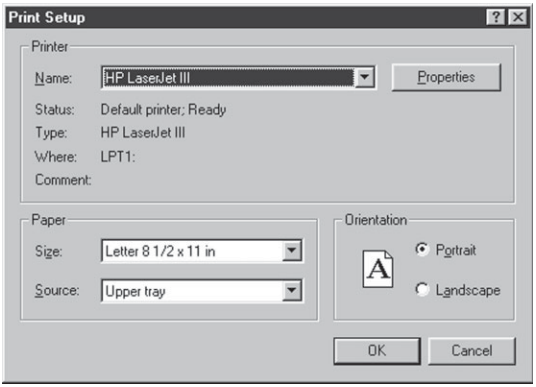


Figure CE-6

Technical Stuff

You will be able to change the type of printer, properties, paper size and orientation within print setup.

Exit

Click **File**, then **Exit** to close Color Editor.

Tip

If you have not saved your work, you will be asked to do so.

VIEW Menu

Toolbar

Figure CE-7

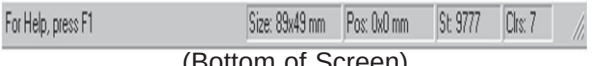
(Top of Screen)

Click **View**, then **Main Toolbar** to add or remove the “Main Toolbar” options from the screen. A checkmark denotes the toolbar is active.

The “Toolbar” is the row of icons found at the top of the screen. As a default, they are always selected “On”.

Status Bar

Figure CE-8



(Bottom of Screen)

Click **View**, then **Status Bar** to add or remove the “Status Bar” options from the screen. A checkmark denotes the toolbar is active.

The “Status Bar” is the row of icons found on the left side of the active screen. As a default, they are always “On”.

OPTIONS Menu

Hoop Size

Click **Options**, then **Hoop Size** to select the brand of machine and hoop size as shown in Figure CE-9.

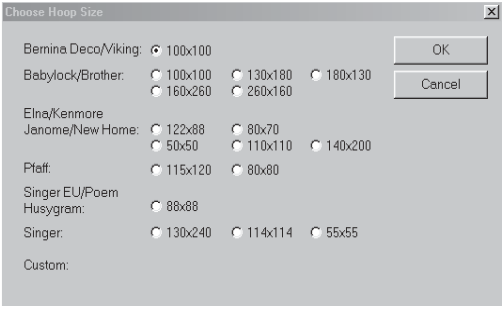


Figure CE-9

Tip

The workspace grid will increase or decrease in size to show the work area available for that particular machine and hoop size.

Each square of the grid equals 10 millimeters by 10 millimeters. (10mm X 10mm). The design you select must fit within the work space.

Density Settings (for GNC Designs Only)

Click **Options**, then **Density Settings** to bring up the dialog box in Figure CE-10. Density Settings only work with GNC designs.

Figure CE-10

In Figure CE-10 you will find two ways to adjust the density of the embroidery pattern, "Adjust stitch density" by percentage or by "Thread Weights."

Figure CE-10a

The best way to "Adjust stitch density" is to remember that if the number is higher than 100, stitches will be added, and if the number is lower than 100, stitches will be removed.

Tip

You may get better results on terry cloth by changing the density to 110% and changing the density to 90% for knits.

In "Thread Weight," the default is 40 wt. When selecting 60 wt, there will be an increase in stitches due to the thickness of the thread being thinner than 40 wt. If "Yarn" is selected, there will be fewer stitches.

Figure CE-10b

Click on **OK** to make the appropriate changes to the design, depending on the density settings you select.

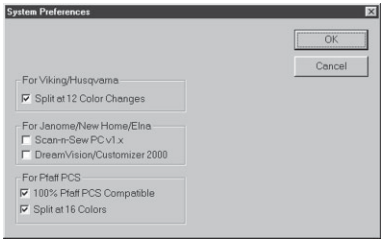
GNC format is the only format in which you can change the density. The GNC format is only found on Amazing Designs Disk Collections.

Click on **Cancel** to close the density settings command without making any changes to your design.

Preferences

Click **Options**, then **Preferences** to bring up the dialog box in Figure CE-11 .

Figure CE-11



Several options can be selected depending on the brand of sewing machine you are using.

Figure CE-11a

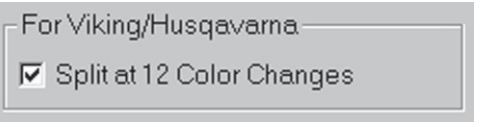


Figure CE-11a shows the setting for Viking/ Husqvarna machines. This option will split the design at every 12th color change.

When a design is split, the file name will be renamed with an A, B, C etc. at the end of the file. For example; if you have a design named 16044.GNC and this design has 13 color changes in it, the file will be saved as 16044_A.HUS and 16044_B.HUS.

Figure CE-11b

Figure CE-11b shows the setting for Janome/New Home/ Elna software. This option will ensure that when you save to *.SEW it will be compatible with Scan-n-Sew PC V1.x. The Dream Vision/ Customizer 2000 when selected will enable 78 colors for Elna/Janome/New Home in your color pallet.

Figure CE-11c

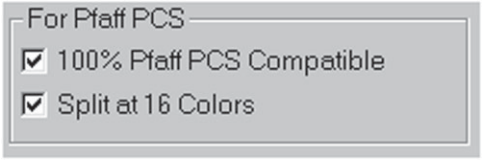
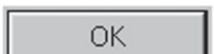


Figure CE-11c is the setting for Pfaff PCS. The first option will make PCS files 100% compatible Pfaff PCS. The second option will split the design at every 16th color change.

When a design is split, the file name will be renamed with an A, B, C etc. at the end of the file name. For example: you have a design named 16044.GNC and this design has 18 color changes in it, when you save it to Pfaff PCS, the file will be saved as 16044_A.PCS and 16044_B.PCS.



Click **OK** to apply selected preferences.

Click **Cancel** to close the dialog box preferences without making any changes to the software.

HELP Menu

About Color Editor

Click **Help**, then **About Color Editor** to display the version number of Color Editor you are using.

Tool Bars

This section describes how to use the three tool bars in Figure CE-12 through CE-14.

Figure CE-12

Main Toolbar

(Top of Screen)

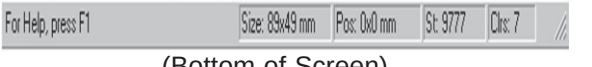
Figure CE-13

Color Bar

(Bottom of Screen)

Figure CE-14

Status Bar



(Bottom of Screen)

Main Menu Toolbar

Open Icon (Ctrl+O)

Click the **Open** icon to open a design file as discussed in the “File Menu” section.

Save Icon (Ctrl+S)

Click the **Save** icon to save changes to an existing file. The “Save” command saves your document under the same name with which it was last saved or opened, replacing the previous version.

When you finish using Color Editor, save your work before you close it.

You should periodically “Save” while you work, so your work will not be lost in the event of a power interruption or hardware failure.

Print Icon (Ctrl+P)

Click the **Print** icon to print a copy of your design. See the “File Menu” section for more information and functions.

Hoop Size Icon

Click the **Hoop Size** icon to bring up the dialog box to select a machine and hoop size. See the "Options Menu" section for more information.

Each square of the grid equals 10 millimeters by 10 millimeters. (10mm X 10mm) The design you select must fit within this work space.

Density Settings Icon

Click on the **Density Settings** icon to adjust the density settings as discussed in the "Options Menu" section.

The GNC format is the only format in which you can change the density. The GNC format is only found on Amazing Designs Disk Collections.

Zoom In Icon

Click on the **Zoom In** icon to zoom in on the design.

Zoom Out Icon

Click on the **Zoom Out** icon to zoom out on the design.

About Icon

Click the **About** icon and the Color Editor version number will be displayed.

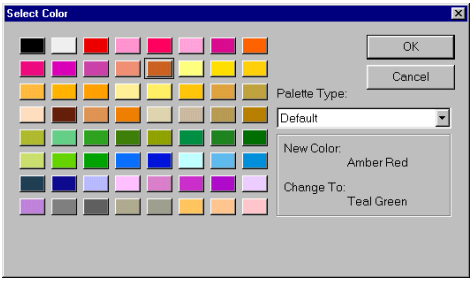
Color Bar

Figure CE-15

The “Color Bar” enables you to change the colors of the design on the screen.

The “Color Bar” will only show the number of boxes that have color changes within a design.

Figure CE-16



After clicking on one of the boxes shown in Figure CE-15 the “Select Color” box will appear as shown in Figure CE-16.

Figure CE-16a

By clicking on the color you wish to change, the name of the color will appear in the “New Color / Change To” box as shown in Figure CE-16a.

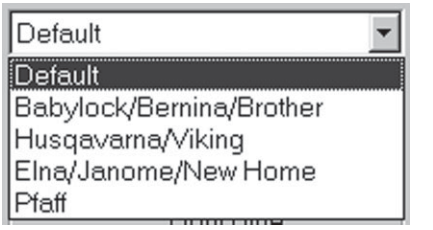


Figure CE-16b

There are five color palettes available to select colors.

Default	=	64 colors
Baby Lock/Bernina/Brother	=	64 colors
Husqvarna/Viking	=	29 colors
Elna/Janome/New Home	=	78 colors
Pfaff	=	16 colors

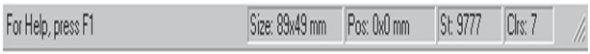
Click on **OK** to change the selected color to its new color.

Click on **Cancel** to close the color select function without changes.

The Color Editor software is included with The Amazing Box so that you can use the "Color Bar" to recolor your designs. If you want the sewing machine to display the correct color names on the sewing machine's display screen, you must recolor the design before saving it to a card.

Status Bar

Figure CE-17



The “Status Bar” provides information about four important items.

1. Size
2. Position from center.
3. Stitch Count
4. Number of Colors

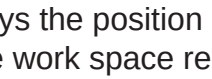
Figure CE-17a

“Sz:” displays the size of the designs placed on the work space.

Figure CE-17b

“Pos:” displays the position of the designs placed on the work space relative to the center.

Figure CE-17c



“St:” displays the stitch count of the designs placed on the work space.

Figure CE-17d

“Clrs:” displays the number of colors of the designs placed on the work space.

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: What is a design transfer system?
Answer: It is a memory card writing system that takes designs from your hard drive, floppy drive or CD and writes them to a memory card to fit your embroidery machine.

Question: Do I need a computer to use a design transfer sytem?
Answer: Yes, The Amazing Box connects to your PC to write files from your computer to the rewritable memory card for your embroidery machine.

Question: What is a finished file format design?
Answer: This is a complete digitized design with a home sew design file extension of HUS, JEF, PCS, PES, etc.

Question: Can I take a .bmp, .wmf or .jpg file and write it to a card for sewing?
Answer: No, these file extensions are graphic files, clip art, or pictures, and need to be digitized before you can write them to a memoy card to stitch out on your embroidery machine. To do this, you will need digitizing software like Click ‘N Stitch from Amazing Designs.

Question: What does digitized mean?
Answer: This is the term for a stitch file. It means that the clip art or picture now has stitches to it.

Question: What does “single sewing field” refer to?
Answer: Each embroidery machine has a maximum area that may be embroidered at one time. This would be considered the machine’s single sewing field. For example, the Simplicity SE3 or Brother PE150 both have a 100x100mm or 4x4” single sewing field. You should be able to find this information in your machine’s instruction manual.

Question: Why do I need this system?
Answer: With The Amazing Box you have the ability to create your own memory cards using designs from disk collections, CDs, or even the Internet. The design possibilities are endless with The Amazing Box. If you decide to edit or add lettering to your designs, The Amazing Box and additional optional software make this possible.

Question: How do I keep my Amazing Box Software up-to-date?

Answer: The Amazing Designs website (http://www.amazingdesigns.com) will post periodic software updates for download. To see which version of the software you have installed, click “Help” on the menu bar and select “About.”

Question: The software does not recognize the converter box, what do I do?

Answer: If you get a message on your screen saying, “No comport...” this usually means the USB driver is not installed correctly. Follow the following steps to reinstall the driver.

1. Unplug the USB cable from the computer while it is on.
2. Turn off your computer.
3. Plug the USB cable back into the computer.
4. Turn on the computer.
5. A Mircrosoft message stating, “New hardware found,” appears.
6. Insert the Amazing Box CD into the CD-ROM drive and cancel installa tion if it autoruns.
7. Now follow the on-screen prompts and directions in the Installation chapter on Hardware Installation to install the USB driver.

Question: Why does the design save to more than one file?

Answer: Some manufacturers have color or stitch limitations for each file. If your machine requires limits, this software will split your designs into two or more files. Ex. Pfaff (PCS) can only read 16 colors per design file. If the design has more than 16 color changes it will be split into two files ‘a’ and ‘b’ when writing to the PCS writable card. Both files must be stitched to complete the design.

If you have any other questions or comments concerning this product, please feel free to contact the manufacturer at the phone number or email address listed below:

1-800-553-1691
support@amazingdesigns.com